

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 22, as follows:

However, this type of fiber-reinforced composite material has highly anisotropic properties, with the strength in a direction perpendicular ~~that right angle~~ to the laminate planes being extremely low compared with the strength within the laminate planes, which is generally the direction in which the fibers extend. In such a laminate type fiber-reinforced composite material, the strength of the fibers contributes little to the strength of the composite material in directions other than within the laminate planes, and hence breakage of laminate type composite materials related to the strength dependent on the resin is critical occasionally. That is, in a fiber-reinforced composite material as described above, even though the in-plane strength can be improved by reinforcing the fiber reinforcements, the strength with regard to the form of breakage dependent on the strength of the resin cannot be improved, and hence this resin-dependent strength may determine the overall strength of the fiber-reinforced composite material.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 20, as follows:

In the carbon nanofiber-dispersed resin fiber-reinforced composite material, the final volume fraction ~~volumetric content~~ of the fiber reinforcements may be made to be in a range of 10% to 70%. By setting the final volume fraction ~~volumetric content~~ of the fiber reinforcement to be in this range, a good balance can be achieved between the in-plane strength, which is based

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primarily on the fiber reinforcement, and the strength other than the in-plane strength such as the compressive strength, which is based primarily on the matrix.